

## CLAIMS

1. A water-insoluble silver conjugated protein formed of a silver salt and a water-soluble protein containing 0.1 to 200  $\mu$  moles of active thiol groups per gram.
- 5 2. A silver conjugated protein as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble protein is a whey protein or a hydrolysate or a water-solubilized material thereof, or a hydrolysate or a water-solubilized material of an eggshell membrane protein.
- 10 3. A silver conjugated protein as set forth in claim 2, wherein lactose is removed from the whey protein beforehand.
4. A silver conjugated protein as set forth in claim 2, wherein the hydrolysate of the eggshell membrane protein is obtained by an alkali-hydrolysis treatment of eggshell
- 15 membrane.
5. A silver conjugated protein as set forth in claim 1, wherein the silver salt is silver nitrate or silver acetate.
6. A silver conjugated protein as set forth in claim 1, wherein the silver conjugated protein is obtained by a process of
- 20 adding an aqueous solution of the silver salt little by little into an aqueous solution of the protein under stirring, thereby raising the concentration of silver ions in water.
7. A silver conjugated protein as set forth in claim 1, wherein the proportion of the silver salt to the protein in the
- 25 silver conjugated protein is 0.2 to 3 g of the silver salt with

respect to 1 g of the protein.

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- 1 8. An antibacterial/antifungal agent containing a silver conjugated protein as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 7 as an active component.
- 5 9. An antibacterial/antifungal paper treated with an antibacterial/antifungal agent as set forth in claim 8.
10. An antibacterial/antifungal paper as set forth in claim 9, wherein treatment comprises coating.
11. An antibacterial/antifungal paper as set forth in claim 10, wherein a coating weight is 0.01 to 10 g with respect to 1 m<sup>2</sup> of paper.